

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CU-04 AID-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01

RSR-01 PC-15 /103 W

----- 035303

R 260445 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3793

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0388

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MP

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 070302

I. YOUTH CATEGORIES:

A. 5 PERCENT -- YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS

5 PERCENT -- YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS

10 PERCENT -- YOUNG BUREAUCRATS

5 PERCENT -- MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

5 PERCENT -- CHURCH

10 PERCENT -- LAW

10 PERCENT -- BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

5 PERCENT -- MEDICINE

10 PERCENT -- EDUCATION

5 PERCENT -- ARTS AND LETTERS

5 PERCENT -- YOUNG LABOR LEADERS

5 PERCENT -- LEADERS OF NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

5 PERCENT -- UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS

N/ A -- S A L E C T E D F A C U L T I E S

5 PERCENT -- SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT LEADERS

5 PERCENT -- YOUNG LEADERSHIP AMONG DISSIDENT MOVEMENTS

5 PERCENT -- YOUNG LEADERS AMONG ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED

B. WHILE EMBASSY BELIEVES MAIN EFFORTS SHOULD CONTINUE BE
DIRECTED TOWARD THOSE OF MAURITIAN YOUTH PREPARED WORK WITHIN
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SYSTEM, WE INCLINED SUSPECT BULK OF COUNTRY'S YOUTH WILL IN DUE COURSE OPT FOR CHANGE. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONSTRAINED BY STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTING IN COUNTRY FROM CLOSE CONTACTS WITH LEADERSHIP (PRIMARILYYOUNG) AMONG DISSIDENTS, THOUGH APPEAL THIS LEADERSHIP HAS TO DISADVANTAGED AND INTELLECTUALS IS VERY REAL AND IS REPORTED ON BY EMBASSY WITH FREQUENCY.

LOCAL CATHOLIC CLERGY HAS PERHAPS SURPRISING NUMBER FORWARD-LOOKING, EVEN RADICAL MEMBERS. ON OTHER HAND, SINGLE PARA - MILITARY UNIT (SPECIAL MOBILE FORCE) IN THIS SMALL COUNTRY IS OFFICERED AT TOP BY THOSE ON SECONDMENT FROM BRITISH ARMY. TROOPS BELIEVED WELL DISCIPLINED UNDER THEM AND HAVE NOT DEVELOPED ANY INDIGENOUS LEADER-

SHIP, NO DOUBT IN PART DUE TO CONTINUOUS ROTATION PERSONNEL WITH POLICE. COMMANDERS SMF BELIEVE THAT MEN IN THIS FORCE WOULD NOT BE RESPONSIVE TO ANY COMMUNAL APPEALS (THEY ARE DRAWN FROM THE SEVERAL

RACES OF MUARITIUS), BUT WHOULD MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER.

C. DISSIDENT LEADERSHIP REFERRED TO PARA B ABOVE, SHOULD IT COME TO POWER, WOULD MOVE TO LEFT INCLUDING CONCEIVABLE NATIONALI - ZATION OF MAIN INDUSTRY, SUGAR. HOWEVER, THEIR ASCENDANCY MIGHT NOT NECESSARILY IMPACT ADVERSELY ON U. S. INTERESTS, NOTABLY ACCESS BY RELATIVELY FEW U. S. NAVAL VESSELS WHICH CALL HERE DURING ANY GIVEN YEAR.

II. OBJECTIVES (KEYED TO APPROPRIATE REFTEL OBJECTIVES)

A. 20 PERCENT -- ASSURE ACCESS...

5 PERCENT DEVELOP INFLUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS...

20 PERCENT -- CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAVORABLE ATTITUDES...

5 PERCENT -- PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING U. S. GOALS...

20 PERCENT -- FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TRADE ---

10 PERCENT -- ENCOURAGE PRAGMATIC APPROACHES...

20 PERCENT -- FOLLOW TRENDS IN SOCIETY...

B. RATIONALE:

IN SMALL AND REMOTE COUNTRY LIKE MAURITIUS, WHOSE IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS CAN ONLY BE CORRESPONDINGLY MINIMAL, CONSIDER OUR MAIN GOALS ARE TO MAINTAIN PRESENT FRIENDLY AND OPEN ATTITUDES, ASSURE NAVAL ACCESS AND SEEK DEVELOP U. S. TRADE. THESE OBJECTIVES APPLY OVERALL BUT ARE CLEARLY LESS IMPORTANT WITH REGARD MAURITIAN YOUTH.

DO NOT SEE WHERE WE CAN (OR SHOULD) APPLY LIMITED EMBASSY RESOURCES, INCLUDING PERSONNEL, TO OBJECTIVES LISTED REFTEL TO WHICH WE HAVE ASSIGNED NO PERCENTAGE FIGURES.

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III. RESOURCES

A. 20 PERCENT -- CU TRAVEL GRANTS...

10 PERCENT -- U. S. PROFESSORS (LECTURING)...

20 PERCENT -- SHORT- TERM AMERICAN GRANTEES...

50 PERCENT -- USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING...

A. IMPROVEMENTS: AS NOTED, CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING IS OUR PRIME RESOURCE IN MAURITIUS. THERE IS INSATIABLE DEMAND, ON PART OF YOUTH CLUBS, SCHOOLS, CULTURAL GROUPS, FOR FILMS BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS. IN ADDITION, MAURITIUS TV STATES COULD PROGRAM ANY NUMBER FEATURE FILMS (THAT IS TO SAY, U. S.- MADE ENTERTAINMENT, OR FILMS OF TOPICAL NATURE, BUT WITHOUT PARTICULAR PROPAGANDA MESSAGE) THAT WE COULD PROVIDE. LATTER WOULD BE PROGRAMMED WITH NOTE MADE OF U. S. ATTRIBUTION.

WHILE POST HAS, SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT, ENDEAVORED " MAKE DO" WITH LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE, INCREASE IN BUDGET WHICH WOULD ALLOW FOR PURCHASES OF, SAY, CHILDREN'S BOOKS, PRESENTATION SUBSCRIPTIONS OF PROMINENT U. S. MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS, ETC., MIGHT NOT SEEM JUSTIFIED IN TERMS HIGHER PRIORITY OBJECTIVES ELSEWHERE.

B. PRIVATE RESOURCES: NOT APPLICABLE

C. PEACE CORPS: SMALL PCV CONTINGENT COMPRISED OF ABLE, LARGELY TECHNICALLY- QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS, OFTEN ACT AS TECHNICAL COUNSELLORS IN INDIVIDUAL GOM MINISTRIES. ON OWN TIME, NUMBER OF PCV' S HAVE ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH LOCAL YOUTH PROJECTS, IN CERTAIN CASES PROVIDING USEFUL CHANNEL FOR MAURITIAN YOUTH/ EMBASSY CONTACTS (E. G. THROUGH SELF- HELP PROJECTS).

IV. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH

A. CLASSIFIED AS " ABOVE AVERAGE."

B. YOUTH OF 21 AND UNDER CONSTITUTE OVER 50 PERCENT OF THIS OVERPOPULATED COUNTRY. THUS, THEIR IMPORTANCE MIGHT APPEAR TO BE EVEN HIGHER THAN RATED. HOWEVER, AT PRESENT TIME RPT PRESENT TIME, WORD " RELATIVE" IS MAJOR QUALIFIER. GOVERNMENT WITH WHICH WE DEAL IS MIDDLE- AGED, BY AND LARGE, AND CHRONOLOGICALLY WELL PRE- DATES INDEPENDENCE PERIOD. UNLESS THERE IS MAJOR UPHEAVAL, WHICH WE DO NOT FORESEE, THEY LIKELY CONTINUE IN POSITIONS RESPONSIBILITY UNTIL NEXT GENERAL ELECTIONS (DUE BY 1976). LATTER LIKELY RE- DO DRAMATIS PERSONAE BUT UNLIKELY AFFECT CENTRAL THRUST OF GOVERNMENT.

C.1. PERSONNEL TIME:

(A) PERCENTAGE -- 10 PERCENT

1 TOTAL MAN- MONTH PER YEAR

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(B) CONTACT WORK -- 20 PERCENT

REPORTING -- 10 PERCENT

PROGRAM WORK -- 70 PERCENT

(C) STATE PERSONNEL TIME -- 100 PERCENT

NO OTHER LISTED AGENCY AT POST; HOWEVER, AS NOTED ITEM III.

C. ABOVE, PEACE CORPS TIME IS DEVOTED TO YOUTH EFFORT ON VOLUNTARY BASIS.

2. PROGRAM RESOURCES:

20 PERCENT OF CU BUDGET

30 PERCENT OF USIA BUDGET

20 PERCENT OF AID BUDGET

NO OTHER BUDGET RESOURCES AVAILABLE THIS POST.

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